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Examiner: Timothy W. Heitbrink

Attn: Mail Stop Issue Fee

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Art Unit 1722

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 10/629,699; Filed: July 30, 2003
For: Valve Pin Guidance and Alignment System
for an Injection Molding Apparatus

Inventors:

FISCHER et al.

Our Ref:

2107.1680001/LEA/RPG

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312; and
- 2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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LEA/RPG/dbj Enclosures

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

e application of:

Fischer et al.

Appl. No.:

10/629,699

Filed:

July 30, 2003

For:

Valve Pin Guidance and Alignment System for an Injection Molding

Apparatus

Confirmation No.:

5350

Art Unit:

1722

Examiner:

Heitbrink, Timothy W.

Atty. Docket: 2107.1680001/LEA/RPG

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Mail Stop Issue Fee

Sir:

Submitted herein is an Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. As payment of the issue fee has not yet been made, Applicants respectfully submit that filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 is proper. (M.P.E.P. § 714.16.)

It is believed that extensions of time are not required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this Amendment. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;

- with status identifiers; and
- with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.